

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

RELEVENT SPORTS, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.

Defendant.

Case No. 1:19-cv-08359-VEC

**DECLARATION OF JEFFREY L. KESSLER IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF
RELEVENT SPORTS, LLC'S OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO
COMPEL ARBITRATION OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE TO DISMISS THE
COMPLAINT**

I, Jeffrey L. Kessler, declare as follows:

1. I am a partner at Winston & Strawn LLP and counsel to Plaintiff Relevant Sports, LLC ("Relevant") in this action.

2. I make this declaration based upon my own personal knowledge in support of Relevant's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Compel Arbitration or in the Alternative to Dismiss the Complaint.

3. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of an August 13, 2008 Letter from Marco Villiger, FIFA Director of Legal Affairs, and Maja Kuster Hoffmann, FIFA Deputy Head of Players' Status, to ChampionsWorld. This letter was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in *ChampionsWorld L.L.C. v. United States Soccer Federation, Inc. et al.*, No. 1:06-cv-05724 (Dkt. No. 90) on August 14, 2008. This letter is incorporated by reference in the Complaint at paragraph 111 & n.66.

4. Attached hereto as **Exhibit B** is a true and correct copy of the Court of Arbitration for Sport's award in *Stillitano v. USSF & FIFA*, CAS 2010/A/2241 (July 12, 2011). This decision was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in *ChampionsWorld L.L.C. v. United States Soccer Federation, Inc. et al.*, No. 1:06-cv-05724 (Dkt. No. 327-2) on September 23, 2011. This document is incorporated by reference in the Complaint at paragraph 114 & n.68.

5. Attached hereto as **Exhibit C** is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws of the United States Soccer Federation, Inc. (As Revised and Amended, Effective May 1, 2019). These Bylaws are incorporated by reference in the Complaint at paragraphs 76 & n.32, 78 & n.36.

6. Attached hereto as **Exhibit D** is a true and correct copy of the Amended Verified Petition filed by Relevant in the New York state court action *Relevant Sports, LLC v. United States Soccer Federation, Inc., et al*, No. 154104/2019 (Dkt. No. 20) on April 23, 2019.

7. Attached hereto as **Exhibit E** is a true and correct copy of the Memorandum of Law in Support of Respondents' Cross-Motion to Compel Arbitration Pursuant to CPLR § 7503(a) and Dismiss the Amended Verified Petition of Relevant Sports, LLC Pursuant to CPLR §§ 3211(a)(1), (a)(7), and 7804(f) filed by USSF in the New York state court action *Relevant Sports, LLC v. United States Soccer Federation, Inc., et al*, No. 154104/2019 (Dkt. No. 48) on May 17, 2019.

8. Attached hereto as **Exhibit F** is a true and correct copy of the Memorandum of Law in Further Support of Motion for Voluntary Discontinuance and in Opposition to Respondents' Cross-Motion for Dismissal with Prejudice and for Costs, Fees, and Sanctions filed by Relevant in the New York state court action *Relevant Sports, LLC v. United States Soccer Federation, Inc., et al*, No. 154104/2019 (Dkt. No. 74) on September 26, 2019.

9. Attached hereto as **Exhibit G** is a true and correct copy of the Players' Status Committee's decision in *USFF v. Stillitano* (Nov. 21, 2008). This decision was filed in the U.S.

District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in *ChampionsWorld L.L.C. v. United States Soccer Federation, Inc. et al.*, No. 1:06-cv-05724 (Dkt. No. 327-2) on September 23, 2011.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the 13th day of December 2019 at New York, New York.

By: s/Jeffrey L. Kessler
Jeffrey L. Kessler
WINSTON & STRAWN LLP
200 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10166
Tel: (212) 294-6700
Fax: (212) 294-4700
jkessler@winston.com

*Counsel for Plaintiff
Relevant Sports, LLC*